

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY – NOVEMBER 9, 2020 - 7:00 P.M.  
CITY OF ALTOONA TRAINING FACILITY & COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1320 WASHINGTON AVENUE, ALTOONA, PA

CALL TO ORDER – by Mayor Pacifico at 7:00 PM

SILENT MEDITATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL – taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer

Present: Council members Butterbaugh, Cacciotti, Carper (via phone), Ickes, Kelley and Mayor Pacifico

Absent: Councilwoman Jordan

PRESENTATIONS - COVID Update – Tim Hileman, COA Emergency Management Coordinator provided Council with an update and Dr. Burwell, UPMC Altoona and Kim Corle, UPMC Altoona, provided an update and answered questions

ALL PUBLIC COMMENT (via telephone) – Mayor Pacifico called for public comment. The call-in number is included on this agenda and on the City's website calendar approximately one week prior to the meeting. The number is also displayed on Public Access Channel 14 at this time for television viewers. There was no public comment.

## RESOLUTIONS

- a) approving the minutes of the Altoona City Council Meeting held Wednesday, October 14, 2020. (0113-20)
- b) amending the 2019 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) – COVID-19-Round One, removing and transferring \$237,840.00 from the Margaret Avenue Emergency Distribution Center Project to the newly created Family Services, Inc., Homeless Shelter Rehabilitation Project of 2300 North Branch Avenue, Altoona, PA. (0114-20)
- c) amending the 2019 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) – COVID-19-Round Three funds, awarding \$305,145.00 to the Family Services, Inc., Homeless Shelter Rehabilitation Project of 2300 North Branch Avenue, Altoona, PA. and further authorizing the Mayor to execute all documents. (0115-20)
- d) authorizing the City Manager and Finance Director to execute the termination of the agreement with Mass Mutual and to install ICMA-RC as the entity providing administrative services relative to the City's Retirement Savings 457 Plan and for the City Clerk to attest to same. (0116-20)

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read the resolutions into the record; the Councilman Ickes requested that items b and c be pulled for separate vote as he

had to abstain due to serving as Chairman of the Family Services Finance Committee; the consent vote was taken by the City Clerk on items a and d and passed 6 to 0; Councilwoman Jordan was absent; a separate vote was taken on item b and passed 5 to 0; Councilman Ickes abstained as previously stated; Councilwoman Jordan was absent; a separate vote was taken on item c and passed 5 to 0; Councilman Ickes abstained as previously stated; Councilwoman Jordan was absent

## ORDINANCES

### Introduction

1) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, IN THE COUNTY OF BLAIR, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, APPROPRIATING SPECIFIC SUMS ESTIMATED TO BE REQUIRED FOR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSES OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT, HEREINAFTER SET FORTH, DURING THE YEAR 2021. (2021 BUDGET ORDINANCE)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and introduced by the Governing Body.

### Introduction

2) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA INCURRING "LEASE RENTAL DEBT," AS DEFINED IN THE PENNSYLVANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT DEBT ACT, IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$7,500,000, EVIDENCED BY ITS GUARANTY OF 100% OF THE PAYMENTS DUE UNDER A "DEBT OBLIGATION" OF THE ALTOONA WATER AUTHORITY ISSUED TO THE PENNSYLVANIA INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AUTHORITY (PENNVEST), IN CONNECTION WITH THE WATER SYSTEM OPERATED BY THE AUTHORITY, AND PAY RELATED EXPENSES; AUTHORIZING A GUARANTY AGREEMENT, BY AND AMONG THE CITY OF ALTOONA, AS GUARANTOR, THE AUTHORITY, AND PENNVEST, AS LENDER, SECURING THE DEBT OBLIGATION; PLEDGING (1) CERTAIN WATER SYSTEM LEASE REVENUES OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, AND (2) THE FULL FAITH, CREDIT, AND TAXING POWER OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA, IN SUPPORT OF ITS GUARANTY; APPOINTING A SINKING FUND DEPOSITORY IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH GUARANTY; AND AUTHORIZING RELATED ACTIONS AND DOCUMENTS.

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and introduced by Vice-Mayor Butterbaugh.

### Introduction

3) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA INCURRING "LEASE RENTAL DEBT," AS DEFINED IN THE PENNSYLVANIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT DEBT ACT,

IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$36,615,700, EVIDENCED BY ITS GUARANTY OF 100% OF THE PAYMENTS DUE UNDER A "DEBT OBLIGATION" OF THE ALTOONA WATER AUTHORITY ISSUED TO THE PENNSYLVANIA INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AUTHORITY (PENNVEST), IN CONNECTION WITH THE SEWER SYSTEM OPERATED BY THE AUTHORITY, AND PAY RELATED EXPENSES; AUTHORIZING A GUARANTY AGREEMENT, BY AND AMONG THE CITY OF ALTOONA, AS GUARANTOR, THE AUTHORITY, AND PENNVEST, AS LENDER, SECURING THE DEBT OBLIGATION; PLEDGING (1) CERTAIN SEWER SYSTEM LEASE REVENUES OF THE CITY, AND (2) THE FULL FAITH, CREDIT, AND TAXING POWER OF THE CITY, IN SUPPORT OF ITS GUARANTY; APPOINTING A SINKING FUND DEPOSITORY IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH GUARANTY; AND AUTHORIZING RELATED ACTIONS AND DOCUMENTS.

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and introduced by Councilman Ickes.

Adoption - Councilman Kelley

4) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALTOONA BY ADDING A NEW CHAPTER 557, TO BE ENTITLED "PURCHASING OF REAL ESTATE, MATERIALS, SUPPLIES AND SERVICES" TO: PROVIDE DEFINITIONS; PROVIDE PROCEDURES AND PARAMETERS FOR PURCHASING REAL ESTATE, MATERIALS, SUPPLIES AND SERVICES; PROVIDE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A DIRECTOR OF PURCHASING AND CORRESPONDING POWERS AND DUTIES; PROVIDE BIDDING REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES; PROVIDE PARAMETERS FOR REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS; PROVIDE PROCESS FOR; PROVIDE SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS, REPEALER; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ORD. NO. 5773)

This ordinance was read into the record by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer  
Introduction – Councilman Kelley

Motion for Adoption – Councilman Cacciotti

Second – Vice-Mayor Butterbaugh

The vote was taken by City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer and passed 6 to 0; Councilwoman Jordan was absent

CITY MANAGER UPDATES – COVID 19 – Mr. Decker stated the parade organizers received information on the upcoming Christmas parade and the medical advice received is not positive; the parade requires a permit from the City; Mr. Decker said the decision could be deferred to ABCD or GAEDC on whether to cancel or not cancel the parade

39<sup>th</sup> Street – Mr. Decker stated the project is turning out well and almost complete; the idea was cost sharing and the price on the overall project came in lower; Mr. Decker's recommendation is to work with the Solicitor and have the property owners who have developed property or need to connect sign a payment

agreement that allows them to pay the sum over a period of time as part of their tax bill and not collect for those with undeveloped property until those properties are developed and have an encumbrance or lien or agreement. Mr. Decker thinks this is the fairest way to do it. Solicitor Tom Finn stated you have to assess each lot equally. There can be an agreement for signature and recording which will then allow the agreement to be satisfied should there be a sale in the middle of payment.

457 retirement plan - progressing and almost finished

Pension RFP – the formal process is over and now the final recommendation of selected vendor; there will be a meeting with the pension boards; with Police pension Council still has control of the fund

Heritage Plaza – hearing positive comments from citizens

Blair Co Chamber Meeting – Mr. Decker is attending a meeting on Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>

Lakemont fish – Mr. Decker stated there have been questions and it is not a City issue and Blair County owns the property; there is no municipal involvement at this point

Zoning Hearing Board – Mr. Decker asked if Council still wanted to receive meeting packets. Council responded that they would like to continue to review Zoning Hearing Board information

Branding Ideas - Mr. Decker provided information and there was some feedback on the logo ideas; Council may want to workshop this in the future; also, best on what has been presented so far it would be nice to know if the logo ideas are far off or close

Cares Money – Mr. Decker stated the City applied for reimbursement from FEMA and is on the third round of providing information for this reimbursement; also, neither AMED or CBRC has received any information on the status of their CARES application or on the status of funding; Councilman Kelley suggested and Council agreed that the City Manager should send a letter to the County Commissioners on behalf of Council for a status update and remind them of the needs of both AMED and CBRC, who play a significant role in our community

2021 Budget – Mr. Decker stated the 2021 budget was introduced at this meeting and is available for public review with adoption scheduled for December 2<sup>nd</sup>. There were no further questions of Council at this time regarding the proposed budget

MAYOR & COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Vice-Mayor Butterbaugh stated he received a lot of positive comments in regards to having trick or treat on a Saturday from 1 to 3 and suggested Council change trick or

treat in the City to the last Saturday in October from 1-3 with the Sunday following as the rain date; Councilman Ickes liked the idea but suggested the date be the day on the calendar that says Halloween; Councilman Cacciotti stated he like 1-3 but heard some negative feedback about the time of day; Mayor Pacifico stated he is in favor of Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> but he received a lot of positive feedback when he was out trick or treating with his son; Vice-Mayor Butterbaugh suggested Council make a decision one year out rather than later or at the last minute; Council held a discussion at this point but no definite plans or dates were decided on

Vice-Mayor Butterbaugh suggested Council change their meeting dates to the second Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. instead of 7:00 p.m. and the worksessions to the fourth Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. moving a meeting that falls on a holiday to the Tuesday of the same week; Council stated they were in favor of this and the City Clerk will prepare a proposed schedule of meetings for the December council meeting

MEDIA – media attendance included Bill Kibler, *Altoona Mirror* who asked questions of Mayor Pacifico and City Council members.

ADJOURNMENT – by Mayor Pacifico at 8:50 p.m.